



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of)	MAIL STOP / AF
Gerard Baumgartner et al.)	
Application No.: 10/706,054)	Group Art Unit: 3726
Filed: November 13, 2003)	Examiner: JOHN C HONG
For: MACHINE FOR PRESENTING A)	Confirmation No.: 6354
TIRE WITH THE AXIS)	
HORIZONTAL)	
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REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated November 15, 2005, reconsideration of the subject patent application is requested.

Applicants wish to thank the examiner for the interview accorded the undersigned.

During the interview, the merits of the invention were discussed, in particular the fact that the support structure is arranged to contact solely a toric section of the tire located between the upright and a vertical plane containing the rotation axis. Stated another way, the portion of the tire disposed to a side of the vertical plane opposite the upright is not supported.

That feature is demonstrated in the attached marked-up copy of Fig. 2 of the application, where it can be seen that the tire is supported solely to the left of the vertical plane containing the axis of rotation, i.e., it is supported solely between the upright 2 and the vertical plane.

The claimed support mechanism is not only simplified, it provides unobstructed access to a major portion of the tire.

In contrast, the support structure shown in Fig. 3 of Painter comprises support rollers located to both sides of the vertical plane which contains the tire's axis of rotation, as shown in the attached marked-up copy of Fig. 3 of Painter. It can be seen that with Painter's apparatus, access to the tire is more obstructed than with the claimed apparatus.


Accordingly, it is submitted that claim 15 distinguishes patentably over Painter.

If the rejection of claim 15 is to be maintained, it is respectfully requested that an explanation be provided as to how the expression "the support structure arranged to contact solely a toric section of the tire located between the upright and a vertical plane containing the rotation axis" is considered to be readable on Fig. 3 of Painter.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date: February 15, 2006

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